THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Monday, 27th July 1953.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Government Estate, Mount Road, at half-past eight of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Flood relief in Kollegal taluk.

* 1082-A *Q.*—SRI R. SIDDANNA GOWD (on behalf of Sri S. C. Virupakshiah): Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state whether in respect of the floods in the Cauvery in July 1953 in Kollegal taluk in Coimbatore district, he has received a report from the Collector about—

(*a*) the number of houses either damaged or collapsed;

(*b*) the number of persons rendered homeless; and

(*c*) the relief measures extended to flood victims?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" (*a*) to (*c*) The Government have no information but have called for a report from the Collector of Coimbatore in the matter."

SRI R. SIDDANNA GOWD :—" May I know why no report was called for from the Collector immediately?"

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" This is a short notice question. I think the hon. Member is blaming me for waiving notice. Notice was given on the 23rd. We have not yet got information."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" May I know why the Government did not call for a report previously, that is, before the short notice question was given?"

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" We must get details and not simply get reports saying there were floods. We know there were floods in Kollegal. We must get detailed information and for this we want some time."

Admission into the Medical Colleges.

* 1082-B *Q.*—SRI S. VEMIAH : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of Scheduled Caste students who have been given admission into the Medical Colleges this year categorically; and

(*b*) the total number of candidates admitted into the colleges this year?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (a) & (b) Out of 355 admissions in all, Scheduled Caste admissions number 21."

SRI S. VEMIAH :—" May I know the number of backward community candidates and women candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The main question relates to Scheduled Castes, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member may put a separate question."

SRI A. RATHINAM :—" May I know what amount is levied by the authorities of medical institutions as caution deposit from the Harijan students this year? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member may put a separate question."

Promulgation of orders under section 41 of the City Police Act near Assembly buildings.

* 1082-C Q.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that orders under section 41 of the City Police Act, Madras, have recently been promulgated by the Commissioner of Police in the area surrounding the Assembly buildings in Madras City; and if so, the reasons for the same?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" An order under section 41 of the Madras City Police Act prohibiting processions, etc., passed by the Commissioner of Police and applicable to the whole of the City is already in force. The Commissioner of Police had good reasons to believe that attempts might be made by certain individuals and organizations to stage demonstrations in thoroughfares and areas that adjoin the Assembly buildings while the Legislature is in session. With a view to maintain public peace which would be endangered by demonstrations and counter-demonstrations of rival sections, the Commissioner made the order under section 41 referred to in the question. The decorum and the orderly proceedings of the House must be protected from disturbance. No new restrictions were placed on the public; the object of passing a separate order was specially to invite the attention of the public to the necessity for a strict compliance with the order in the areas specified during the session of the Legislative Assembly."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" May I know whether the Police Commissioner obtained the previous order of the Government to promulgate this order? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Yes, Sir."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU :—" May I know whether the Government are against peaceful demonstrations as well? "